

# CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

August 17, 2018

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If you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list please email [tara.johnson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:tara.johnson@ag.tamu.edu) THANK YOU

UPCOMING EVENTS	
Tri- County Crops Conf.	9/11
Americot/NexGen Field Day	9/18
GCJLA Dove Hunt	9/19

ST. LAWRENCE PEST MANAGEMENT  
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## COTTON

We finally received the rain that we have been waiting on for so long now. As per usual not everyone was blessed by the rains that we received, but those that did get wet got anywhere from 1.00" to as much as 7.8" over the course of about five days. Of course when you get over to around FM 1357 and further west remained dry. It has just been a tough year for the Midkiff country.

Now that we have some moisture that creates options and decisions for many folks. One is with PGR's. I am not a huge fan of PGR's in general because I feel like we wreck more cotton and shut it down prematurely than we help out. Remember, a PGR will not increase yield, it can help with setting the fruit that is on the plant, but more importantly, manage plant height. I have data from Charles Stichler including some conducted right here showing no yield gain, but a more manageable plant. With that being said, be careful putting PGR's out. Many fields are running 3-6 NAWF with a good two weeks left to bloom, a good load forming on the plants, and a lot of small bolls and blooms in the canopy. Our temperatures are moderate this weekend and looking cooler next week. The variables that you will have to consider are moisture, how much rain did you get? Are your pumps off? How much N have you put out? What variety is it? Varieties such as NG 5007, PHY 444, PHY 480, DP 1646, and DP 1845 require a little more maintenance. What is your field history? Some fields just always grow bigger cotton despite water, fertilizer, and variety.

Another thing to be mindful of right now are weeds. Weeds are obviously coming up in a lot of this cotton and need to be taken care of, but keep in mind all the failed cotton ground. Some of these fields are getting pretty wooly right now. Remember that the seeds you produce right now will be next years weeds.

As we wind this year's scouting program down, stink bugs continue to be the main topic of concern. If you have not checked all of your fields this week I highly suggest that you do so. This week makes the 7th week in a row I have been talking about them. The more aggravating fact is that there is no pattern. One field may have them bordering the pasture, the next field they are on they opposite side and the pasture side is clean. One time they are next to corn or sorghum, the next time they are not. You have got to get out and walk. We have treated a few fields more than once. Aside from stinkbugs, this crop is on the downhill slide. Most fields are running 3-6 NAWF with most in the 3-4 NAWF range. With two weeks left to set blooms this is right on schedule. If you are in the 6-7 NAWF range you might think about shutting the crop down.

Spider mites are also still present and have been treated in Glasscock County. The recent rains appear to have helped but they may become more of an issue once we start cutting grain.

## SORGHUM

Sugar cane aphid (SCA) has now been found in Glasscock County this past week (8/14). I have not found it anywhere else except for the one field, but with the amount of sorghum and hay grazer that we have it will travel.

## WE JUST LOST LORSBAN!

Since the EPA has been wavering back and forth for the past several years, the U.S. 9th Circuit has ordered EPA to cancel the registration for Chlorpyrifos, the active ingredient in Lorsban. You can read the full article [here](#).

## WHEAT

Folks have been asking about wheat the past week or so. A couple of things to keep in mind, for grazing, late August is a good time to get it sown, for grain, mid-October is ideal. Many folks are concerned about Fall Armyworm (FAW), and rightfully so. There are a ton of them out there in the hay right now. The only way to completely avoid them is to wait until after a hard, killing freeze. The worms burrow into the soil, so it must be a hard freeze. The problem becomes, when will it freeze and how much will your wheat grow before going dormant? The other option is to kill every green living plant in the field for a period of 2 weeks prior to sowing wheat. This will starve out the FAW and give your wheat a head start and hopefully a chance to get established. This doesn't guarantee that you won't have to spray, but it at least increases your odds.

## PECAN WEEVILS

Pecan weevils will be emerging in couple of weeks. The pecans are nearing the gel or dough stage now when treatments should be initiated. Sevin or a synthetic pyrethroid such as Brigade, Warrior, Karate, Mustang Max, and Hero are the products of choice on pecan weevils. Check your earliest developing nuts and treat if the gel stage has been reached.

Research shows that the pecan weevil adults typically emerge from their soil cells (4"-10" beneath the surface) from mid-August to mid-September to mate and oviposit in pecan nut (emergence can be monitored by using a number of different emergence cages, checking dropped nuts in August for feeding punctures, etc.) Successful management strives to prevent adult females from successfully laying eggs in the developing kernels (nuts still in the water stage are not yet susceptible to oviposition, but as they transition through the gel stage, kernel development beginning at the tip allows eggs to be placed in them.) There is a 3-5 day period from when the adult emerges from the soil to when they can successfully begin to lay eggs in susceptible nuts. Emerging weevils should be killed before oviposition begins and Carbaryl or a pyrethroid are the standard pesticides used for this purpose. Pecan varieties like 'Pawnee' begin kernel formation in early August and should be protected based on when the first emerging weevils are found; other varieties, like 'Stuart', may not begin kernel formation until early September, and pecan weevils emerging earlier can be allowed to accumulate until 'Stuart' reaches the gel stage, when treatment must be made to prevent successful oviposition in them. The residual of Carbaryl is about 10-14 days and, if pecan weevils continue to emerge from their soil cells following an initial treatment, a second or even a third treatment may be needed to prevent economic damage from occurring.

### TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 21	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 22	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, August 28	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 29	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop